

Message Text

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TAGS: UN, ECOSOC, SHUM

SUBJECT: 62ND ECOSOC--PREPARATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ITEMS

1. ON THE BASIS OF REPORTS AND IMPRESSIONS OF THE U.S. DELEGATION TO THE 33RD HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (HRC) SESSION DEPT HAS CONCLUDED THAT THERE WILL VERY LIKELY BE A CONCERTED EFFORT AT 62ND ECOSOC TO UNDERMINE OR DRASTICALLY CURTAIL SPECIAL PROCEDURES UNDER ECOSOC RESOLUTION 1503. WHILE WE HAVE RECEIVED NO SPECIFIC INDICATION THAT ATTACK WILL BE LAUNCHED OR OF FORM ATTACK WILL TAKE, GENERALLY POSITIVE IF MODEST DEVELOPMENTS AT THE 33RD HRC IN IMPLEMENTING 1503 PROCEDURES SUGGEST THAT THOSE DELEGATIONS THAT HAVE TRADITIONALLY BEEN OPPOSED OR SKEPTICAL OF 1503 PROCEDURES WILL MAKE UP FOR MISSED OPPORTUNITIES AT HRC BY AT LEAST PROPOSING THOROUGH REVIEW
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OF 1503 PROCEDURES WITH A VIEW TO THEIR MODIFICATION. RATIONALE FOR REVIEW MAY BE THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE COVENANTS OR ALLEGED FAILURE OF THE PROCEDURES TO OPERATE PROPERLY ON GROUNDS SUCH AS THE PERSISTENT VIOLATIONS OF CONFIDENTIALITY RULES.

2. DEPT CONSIDERS THAT USDEL TO 62ND ECOSOC MUST BE

PREPARED TO DEFEND 1503 PROCEDURES AGAINST ATTACK NOT ONLY THROUGH DIRECT OPPOSITION TO MEASURES OF ATTACK BUT ALSO

THROUGH THE PRESENTATION OF PROPOSALS WHICH WOULD BE DESIGNED TO CLARIFY AND STRENGTHEN ECOSOC RES 1503. THOUGHT IS THAT SUCH PROPOSALS, WHETHER OR NOT THEY ARE ADOPTED, COULD HELP U.S. DEFEND PRESENT PROCEDURES AGAINST EFFORTS TO WEAKEN THEM. DEPT HAS IN MIND PARTICULARLY (A) A RESOLUTION CLARIFYING THE EXTENT OF THE CONFIDENTIALITY REQUIREMENTS OF RES. 1503, (B) IMPROVEMENTS IN 1503 PROCEDURES TO ALLOW FOR RECEIPT OF UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION BY THE HRC ON SITUATIONS REFERRED TO THE HRC BY THE SUBCOMMISSION, OR (C) POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL MEETING OF THE SUBCOMMISSION IMMEDIATELY BEFORE THE HRC.

3. DEPT WOULD APPRECIATE URGENT COMMENT FROM USUN ON BEST TACTICS TO BE FOLLOWED IN COPING WITH EXPECTED ATTACK ON 1503 PROCEDURES. COMMENTS SHOULD COVER SUGGESTIONS FOR ADVANCE CONSULTATIONS AS WELL AS IDEAS ON POSSIBLE PROPOSALS WHICH MIGHT BE PUT FORWARD TO STRENGTHEN THE 1503 PROCEDURES. IN FORMULATING COMMENTS, REQUEST USUN DISCUSS FOREGOING IDEAS WITH UK AND FRG DELEGATIONS. WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE USUN JUDGMENT AS TO WHETHER NORWEGIAN MISSION STAFFED TO PLAY USEFUL ROLE IN PRE-ECOSOC CONSULTATIONS ON 1503 PROCEDURES AS FOLLOW-UP TO FONMIN FRYDENLUND'S OFFER TO HOLD A CONFERENCE ON THIS SUBJECT IN APRIL (OSLO 1334, BEING REPEATED USUN).

4. ANOTHER MAJOR ITEM TO BE FACED AT 62ND ECOSOC WILL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BE THAT RELATING TO THE DECADE FOR ACTION TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION. DEPT URGENTLY REQUIRES USUN'S RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING MANNER IN WHICH USDEL MIGHT PROCEED TO ACHIEVE GOAL OF PARTICIPATION IN WORLD CONFERENCE TO BE HELD UNDER THE DECADE IN 1978, FREE OF TAIN OF ZIONISM-RACISM EQUATION (GA RES. 3379). DEPT UNDERSTANDS THAT MISSION OFFICERS HAVE BEEN EXPLORING ALTERNATIVES ON THIS PROBLEM AND DEPT WOULD APPRECIATE MISSION'S SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. USUN'S VIEWS SHOULD REFLECT ALSO PRELIMINARY THINKING OF UK AND FRG DELEGATIONS ON VIABLE ALTERNATIVES.

5. RE SPECIFIC IDEAS DISCUSSED IN PRESIDENT'S UN SPEECH OF MARCH 17, USUN SHOULD, IF ASKED, INFORM OTHER INTERESTED DELEGATIONS THAT USUN EXPECTS IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS ON STEPS WHICH MIGHT USEFULLY BE TAKEN AT 62ND ECOSOC TO FOLLOW UP ON PRESIDENT'S SUGGESTIONS. MUCH OF OUR THINKING IN THIS AREA WILL BE AFFECTED BY USUN'S RECOMMENDATIONS ON

RELATED MAJOR HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES AT 62ND ECOSOC, VIZ.
THE 1503 PROCEDURES AND THE RACE DISCRIMINATION DECADE.

6. WE WILL SHORTLY BE PROVIDING GUIDANCE IN

CONNECTION WITH THE PROBLEM OF RE-ELECTION OF U.S. AND
OTHER WEO'S TO HRC. ANY INFORMATION RELATING TO HOW
EUROPEANS ARE SORTING OUT COMPETING CANDIDACIES OF
FRANCE, ITALY, FRG, AUSTRALIA AND U.S. WOULD THEREFORE
BE APPROPRIATE.
CHRISTOPHER

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